RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

October 2014
Upper Colorado Region

UC Today

Glen Canyon Dam Celebrated 50 Years of Power Generation

On September 27, 2014, the Glen Canyon Dam and Powerplant celebrated the 50th anniversary of power generation. The ceremony welcomed the Secretary of the Interior's Sally Jewell, Assistant Secretary of Water and Science Anne Castle, Mayor of Page Bill Diak, Colorado Energy Distribution Association Executive Director Leslie James, as well as Former President of the Colorado Water Users Association Ron Thompson to speak at the event. The event turned out to be a huge success with stakeholders, DOI agency staff, and the public.

The event was to kick off on top of the dam with the Facility Manager Jason Tucker announcing the event; however, due to the weather and last call alterations, the event was moved inside to Plan B, in the Visitors Center. The event went on without a hitch due to the amazing staff at Glen Canyon Dam; they all pulled together and seamlessly changed the entire location. There was wiring, setting up PA systems and the podium, bringing in chairs, decorations, etc., all in a matter of an hour. The event would not have been such a success if it wasn't for everyone involved pulling it off and making it happen behind the scenes.

The severe weather conditions caused the traveling roads to be closed due to mud slides and flooding from heavy rains and the nearby airports were on delay, yet there was still an amazing turnout. The waterfalls

after a monsoon, courses of water, collected from slick rock above during the shower, came in streams over the rock walls. The moisture brought out the red tones of the rock as well demonstrating how the cliffs acquire their décor, which made for outstanding views for the guests.

Though there were obstacles to make the event a grand slam, they went unnoticed and the ceremony went on with Secretary Jewell who thanked the people and the community who have supported Glen Canyon form the early days of construction and the continuation of operations today, including Jason, who oversees the operations of the dam for the Bureau of Reclamation and Todd Brindle, Superintendent of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. She also praised Anne Castle, who is leaving the Interior at the end of the month for new ventures, for her outstanding work with Reclamation, National Park Service and other Interior agencies on adaptive management of the Colorado River Basin.

“The Colorado River has always been known for its superlatives – the most volatile supplies, the most iconic landscapes, the most dammed, the most litigated, and recently, the most threatened,” remarked Assistant Secretary Castle. “Collectively, we need to make this river, this basin, this economy, one that will endure into the future and ensure that our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy the same benefits and gifts that this river has provided to all of us. Operation of Glen Canyon Dam that is based on sound science and that balances a complex set of interests has been and will continue to be key to that sustainable future.”

Glen Canyon Dam is a key unit of one of the most extensive and complex river resource developments in the world, providing vital water storage and power generation for the west. It allows the Upper Colorado River Basin States of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming to utilize their share of the Colorado River while providing the required delivery of water to the lower basin states of Arizona, California and Nevada.

Situated on the Colorado River in northern Arizona, near Page, Glen Canyon Dam is the second highest concrete-arch dam in the United States—710 feet above bedrock, second only to Hoover Dam, which stands at 726 feet. The structure impounds Lake Powell, the second largest man-made reservoir in the United States. The powerplant began generating clean, renewable hydropower on September 4, 1964. The inexpensive electricity generated by this facility contributes to the renewable energy footprint in the western United States and has contributed to the modernization of hydroelectric power that exists today and will continue into tomorrow.

Today Lake Powell can store nearly 2 years of the Colorado River’s average annual flow, helping mitigate the current drought; moreover, the powerplant produces 5 billion kilowatt hours of hydroelectric power each year – enough electricity to help supply the power needs for 5.8 million customers. It would take 2.5 million tons of coal or 11 million barrels of oil to generate the same amount of hydropower that Glen Canyon provides every year using clean, renewable hydropower. The many hundreds of miles of shoreline at Lake Powell provide opportunities for hiking, camping, swimming, boating and fishing. Glen Canyon Dam and the adjacent Carl B. Hayden Visitor Center annually host nearly one million people on guided tours.

“Glen Canyon Dam, its Powerplant and Lake Powell are critical components of Reclamation’s Colorado River Storage Project,” said Lowell Pimley, Acting Commissioner for the Bureau of Reclamation. “We are proud that this facility has and will continue to generate clean renewable hydropower, regulate the flow of the Colorado River, store water for multiple beneficial uses, help reclaim arid and semi-arid lands, provide flood protection and offer prime recreation opportunities to millions of Americans.”

The celebration continued after the ceremony with an antique car show, several displays related to power generation and water use from federal, state, and local partners. A special presentation by the Navajo tribe allowed visitors to see traditional Navajo dance. Additionally, at the event a video was premiered that was created by local Page High School students in collaboration with Reclamation titled, “I am Glen Canyon.” Even though the tours were cancelled due to the weather, it gave time for great photo ops of the waterfalls.

Photos below

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Talking Water Conservation on the Navajo Reservation

By Stacey Smith
Communications Specialist

Michael Flynn, a scientist at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Ames Research Laboratory in Moffett Field, California, was recently in Utah to discuss an ongoing research project with Reclamation's Provo Area Office (PAO) staff. While in Utah, Michael and the staff took the opportunity to discuss water conservation and other "green" technologies with the Navajo school children in the southeastern portion of the state.

Before leaving for the Navajo Nation, Michael, who works on deep-space recycling systems for NASA, made a presentation to the PAO staff. He went into to detail on the various water recycling and treatment systems that NASA is currently designing and evaluating.

While on the reservation, in presentations to four different Navajo schools in Montezuma Creek and Navajo Mountain, Michael discussed the importance of water recycling and "green" technologies in space, while also commenting on some of the possible applications of such technologies here on earth. Accompanying the group was Kris Martin, a Navajo college student from Crown Point, New Mexico. Kris has been on three internships with NASA and provided an excellent role model for the young Navajo students. He encouraged all of the students to stay in school.

When he mentioned that astronauts were required to drink treated recycled liquids, that comment evoked a groan from the young crowd. All in all, Michael made presentations to over 200 young people, encouraging them all to stay in school and study math and science. He also

mentioned NASA's internship program, which is actively seeking participation from the Native Americans.

While Michael made presentations to both high school age and the 5th and 6th graders, it seems like the younger children were the most interested. After his presentations, the latter group always had a wider range of questions. Michael indicated that NASA studies indicate that the best time to influence the future of kids is during their 5th grade year.

While traveling with the PAO staff and Michael, I was able to talk to school principals and other education officials about Reclamation's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) initiative. All were very excited about possible future cooperative efforts. They were excited about activities that involved solar power, in part because alternative energy is such an important part of reservation life, particularly for those Navajos living is isolated locations.

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Northwest Middle School MESA Club Goes Solar With Reclamation

Northwest Middle School Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) 2014-2015 Club invited Reclamation to help with their first two club meetings. This was a great opportunity for Reclamation to partner with MESA and Northwest Middle School. As with all our presentations, we first introduced our agency with some brief facts about Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region.

Students were provided solar kits used for outreach activities in this 2 day after school session that involved building and testing a basic solar vehicle.

Science teacher and MESA coordinator Delores Frison is a big component of using local professionals to help her students see the big picture about the current and future work force. The first day included the ground rules for the MESA's program and what was required to get credit for their participation. MESA is nationally recognized for its innovative and effective academic development program. It also engages thousands of educationally disadvantaged students so they excel in math and science and graduate with math-based degrees.

The solar project was something new for us as well, the student's end results were more impressive than we had imagined. They created unique vehicle designs and worked together as teams. All the solar vehicles worked, once we moved the second part of the demonstration outside were the students raced to see who had the best aerodynamic shape. Students also designed a make shift driving course for the solar vehicles considering the direction of the sunrays.

After this activity Mrs. Frison thanked Reclamation for our participation, which help to boost the membership of their chapter of MESA by 10 students. Awesome Outreach.

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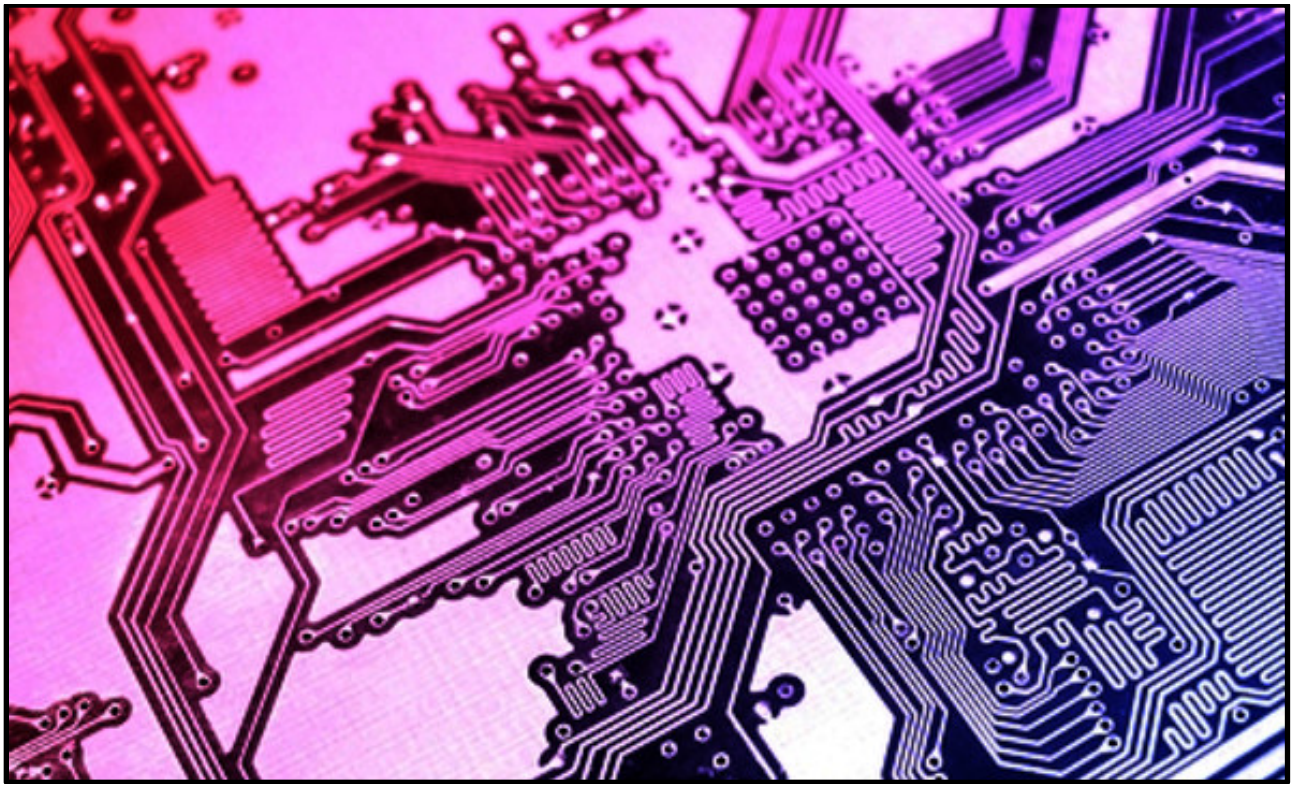
Can Technology Help Save Africa?



R. Dennis Hansen
Ethical Technology

Ray Kurzweil recently made the observation that: "A kid in Africa has access to more information than the President of the United States did 15 years ago."[1] Since I try to spend at least one month a year in Africa (mostly in Uganda), this quote got me thinking.

Could technology be an important fix for some of Africa's most pressing problems? One helpful sign: major fiber-optic cables are being submerged along the east coast of Africa, connecting countries from Djibouti south to South Africa. On a recent trip to Africa, I witnessed an army of ditch diggers burying fiber-optic cable extending into northern Uganda.
Cellphones have already had a major impact on sub-Saharan Africa . They are changing the way businesses and educators do work.

An important use of cellphones in Africa is mobile banking. For example, it is now estimated that 70 percent of Kenyan adults transfer money using their mobile phones. Mobile banking lets users load money onto their phones and then send it to another phone through a simple text message. When the concept of mobile payment was introduced, the majority of Africans did not have access to formal financial services. With the arrival of mobile banking, any mobile phone can operate like a banking center.

Just as Africans moved from having no phone to owning a cellphone (skipping the landline phase), banking is moving from an individual having no bank services to mobile banking (skipping traditional brick and mortar banks). Similarly, IT technologies can also be used to further the reach of education. At an extremely isolated school with no electricity but with cellular coverage, a lot can be accomplished with a smart phone, a LED projector, and speakers. All you need is a fairly dark room (for example, shutter the windows).

Even without the Internet, a laptop computer and LED, battery-powered projector can be a game changer. The projector allows the information on the computer to be shared simultaneously by every student in the class. With

these devices, it's possible to improve the quality of education with a relatively small investment. According to J. Hughes:

"Early childhood education from prekindergarten through the first grade, has an effect on cognition and academic achievement. [And] information technology and artificial intelligence now allow us to move beyond the industrial model of education that developed a century ago to more personalized and adaptive curricula that will hopefully identify and develop our fullest natural capacities throughout the life cycle."[2]

Earlier this year, my colleagues and I visited a small Ugandan island in Lake Victoria. We were there to work with a school in a remote village. We were assisting with a water harvesting system, installing an alternative energy system, encouraging women's groups, enlarging playground facilities, and making micro-loans.

Traveling with us was a research engineer from NASA. We asked the headmaster if it would be okay to make a short PowerPoint presentation about America's space program. The headmaster liked the idea, and suggested that we also invite interested villagers.

Since the village didn't have power, we had brought along a small battery-powered LED projector. But the projector needed dark conditions. So at 7 pm, we headed out of our guesthouse to the center of the village where we set up our equipment. Under the stars, fifty-plus students and adults circled around the projector and screen.

The engineer from NASA made an interesting presentation, complete with animated graphics about a recent Mars landing. Despite a few distractions, the presentation went well. Several times during the presentation the children were encouraged to stay in school, and study both math and science. After the presentation was over, there were many questions.

In all, it was a very surreal experience: at night, in the center of a very poor African village, making a presentation about America's space program. But it was very useful illustration to us about the incredible potential for the technology.
The use of higher and higher forms of IT technologies brings up the issue of "appropriate technology." The following story was related in the book *Mountains Beyond Mountains*:

"When [Innovative health reformer Paul Farmer returned] to Cange [Haiti] from Harvard and he found that [Father] Lafontant (one of his local contacts) had overseen the construction of thirty fine-looking concrete latrines, scattered through the village. 'But,' Farmer asked, 'are they appropriate technology?' He'd picked up the term in class at the Harvard School of Public Health. As a rule, it meant that one should use only the simplest technologies required to do the job.

'Do you know what appropriate technology means? It means good things for rich people and shit for the poor,' the priest [Lafontant] growled."[3]

While technology alone cannot save Africa, it will certainly be an important contributor, particularly since costs are dropping rapidly and the potential uses of technology are expanding exponentially.

[1] http://www.cnn.com/2012/03/12/tech/innovation/ray-kurzweil-sxsw/
[2] http://ieet.org/index.php/IEET/more/hughes20140910
[3] Tracy Kidder, 2004, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*, Random House Trade Paperbacks, New York.

Newsletter: http://ieet.org/mailman/listinfo/ieet-announce

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From the Regional Director's Office

Thoughts on Glen Canyon Dam – 50 Years

In the late 1950s and the early 1960s people came from across America to construct the Glen Canyon Dam. Good hard working men and women – they came to Glen Canyon when there wasn't much there. The workers needed a place to stay, so they built a government camp that later became Page, Arizona. They built the roads to the canyon edge and a suspended foot bridge to cross the canyon. This was hard work – dangerous work – not for the faint of heart. There are stories about crossing the footbridge that should be told and retold. Stories like the one about the scooter that was routinely used to get from one side to the other or of the Willies Jeep that crossed the bridge late one evening. The foot bridge shown in the pictures was eventually replaced with the beautiful arched bridge that crosses the canyon today.

The construction required laborers of all kinds; high scalers that hung from the canyon walls like spiders to remove loose rock and install rock bolts to make the work area safe. Miners excavated the two -mile long access tunnel in the left abutment and the large diameter diversion tunnels through both abutments that later were integrated into the spillways. The sandstone abutments were excavated, geologists mapped the foundation, surveyors laid out the dam, and engineers guided the work; skilled craftsmen, electricians, and mechanics all worked hand in hand to build the dam and power plant one block at a time. Glen Canyon Dam is an engineering masterpiece that has created memories that are woven into the fabric of the west and the nation. The dam along with the power plant is a thing of beauty – something we can all be proud of. Because of the diligent hard work of those who came before us, millions of people now enjoy the benefits of Glen Canyon Dam every year.

Our crews today that work in our Power Office and at Glen Canyon have that same spirit. They are good hard working men and women. Their blood and sweat, like those that came before, are also woven into the fabric of Glen Canyon. They meticulously care for the gift that was left for us – to keep Glen Canyon Dam and power plant running so we can benefit from it today and pass it on to the next generation. Congratulations to each of you for the first 50 years. Well done.

Brent

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Thank You Note from Ann Gold

Hi Everyone, just a quick note to let you all know again how much I appreciate the wonderful emails, notes, gift cards, and party. It's been just over a month since I retired, a couple of weeks of which I spent in Italy (Rick and I ate our way through Rome, Venice, and Lake Como). I'm not quite used to being retired yet – I have to remind myself I don't have to get up and go to work. But so far I'm enjoying things, although I miss all of you.

I am spending the gift card on a smaller picture of the Glen Canyon Dam High Flow that's in the foyer on the 8th floor. It will remind me of all of the good work we collectively did in Reclamation – I'm very proud of it. I'd love to hear from you occasionally if you are so inclined. My email is rags4ann@comcast.net.

Hope you are all doing well. Thanks again for everything.

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National Disability Employment Awareness Month

In October, Americans observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month by paying tribute to the accomplishments of the men and women with disabilities whose work helps keep the nation's economy strong and by reaffirming their commitment to ensure equal opportunity for all citizens. This effort to educate the public about the issues related to disability and employment began in 1945, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of October each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week. In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. Some 25 years later, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Executive and Legislative Documents
The Law Library of Congress has compiled guides to commemorative observations, including a comprehensive inventory of the Public Laws, Presidential Proclamations and congressional resolutions related to Disability Employment Awareness Month.

About This Year's Theme
"Expect. Employ. Empower."
This year's NDEAM theme is the outcome of a highly collaborative process. The department's Office of Disability Employment Policy began by holding a national online dialogue in which members of the public were invited to submit ideas. Facilitated through ODEP's ePolicyWorks external link icon initiative using crowdsourcing technology, this dialogue attracted 350 registrants who together submitted 126 different theme ideas. In addition to contributing their own ideas, registrants could comment and vote on those submitted by others. ODEP then narrowed the list of contenders in collaboration with members of the Campaign for Disability Employment external link icon at their quarterly meeting April 9, which was held at Special Olympics headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Link: http://www.loc.gov/disabilityawareness/

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10 Facts About Recycling That Might Surprise You

The Public Education put together 10 of their favorite facts about recycling that might surprise you. We hope you enjoy!

1. At 56%, New Jersey has the highest recycling rate of all the states. We're not surprised; many of our customers are from New Jersey and we hope to help other states reach such impressive numbers.
2. Recycle or go digital: Every Sunday, the US wasted nearly 90% of the recyclable newspapers. This equates to about 500,000 trees! (source: montgomeryschools.org)
3. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a 100 watt light bulb for 20 hours, a computer for 3 hours, and a TV for 2 hours. (source: benefitsofrecycling.com)
4. One tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year. (source: montgomeryschools.org)
5. The smelly truth: A cloth diaper washed at home costs about $.03 per use, whereas a disposable diaper costs about $.22 per use. The difference adds up; A typical baby uses around 10,000 diapers – An almost $2,000 difference!
6. Moving in the right direction: In 2010, paper recycling had increased over 89% since 1990. (source: dosomething.org)
7. Enough plastic bottles are thrown away in the United States each year to circle the Earth four times. (source: benefitsofrecycling.com)
8. Bring your own bags: It takes a 15-year-old tree to produce 700 grocery bags. (source: epa.gov)
9. Do you compost? Every year we generate around 14 million tons of food waste, which is 106 pounds of food waste per person. 570,000 tons of this is composted for a 4.1% recovery rate. The rest, or 13.4 million tons, is incinerated or landfilled and occupies 6.3 million cubic yards of landfill. (source:epa.gov)
10. This hits close to home: Five recycled plastic bottles make enough fiberfill to stuff a ski jacket. (source: montgomeryschools.org)

Link: http://www.recycleaway.com/10-Facts-About-Recycling-That-Might-Surprise-You_b_43.html

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Oral History Spotlight

The UC Regional Library has a collection of 110 oral history interviews conducted by Historians, with various Reclamation employees throughout the years. The oral histories capture candid "in their own voice" memories of employees and their experiences working for Reclamation. The oral histories preserve information about Reclamation that would not normally appear in Reclamation's official records. Contents of the oral histories range from the humorous to reflective of the situation at the time, and all are informative!

Oral History Interview
John B. Budd

Mr. Budd was exposed to Reclamation through his father Jesse Boyer Budd who worked on the Casper-Alcova Project as a Civil Engineer. What follows are excerpts from Mr. Budd's oral history book:

Living in the Reclamation Camp in Indianola, Nebraska

> Yeah, no question about it. When we lived in Indianola, you got to keep in mind that what we had there were tar paper barracks in the middle of Nebraska, and the first winter we were there, I can remember walking to the top of the place we lived, on the snow. The wind blew snowdrifts out there that was just–it was horrendous: two or three weeks of blizzard. It was downright cold. And what they had done, is they had had barracks converted into apartments, and each barrack there would be three or four apartments, depending on whether it was a GS-2's apartment, or whether it was a GS-

14's. The more grade you had, the bigger apartment you were entitled to. But that community was isolated, it was four or five miles from town–"town" being Indianola, which was not a lot bigger than the government camp. I think there were about 400 people, ultimately, that lived . . . Ah, it may not be that many–closer to 200 people–that lived in the camp, and 800 lived in town. So the town wasn't a lot bigger than the government housing. McCook, the next largest town, was about *twelve* miles away, and that was only 7,000. And to go to some place bigger, why, you were five or six *hours*. So you were isolated.

Worked on a Survey Crew on the San Luis Canal in Coalinga in 1961

My dad opened an office down there for Reclamation. He was field engineer, it was the start-up of the San Luis Unit of the Central Valley Project, and the lower reaches, Reaches 3, 4, and 5 of the San Luis Canal were under the preview of the Coalinga Office–the location and preconstruction surveying was being done out of that office. And I guess eventually he had four or five survey crews working for him. The summer I was there, I worked on the first crew, and then there was another crew put together during that summer. So when I left, went back to school, why, there were two crews, I think, working on it, maybe three, working out of that office.

How Electricity Generated on the Central Valley Project Is Used on the Project

Storey: So the pumping from the Delta, where does the electricity come from?

Budd: It's all what we call "project use energy." It's generated by project facilities at Shasta, Trinity–the Trinity water imports come through a fairly long, significant power drop–we generate it at, like I said, at Shasta–and there's an after bay there. We generate at Keswick, at Trinity, at Whiskey town, at Lewiston, at Folsom. I guess that's it. Then when we're making *releases* from San Luis Reservoir, why, the pumps can be turned into generators, so we generate electricity when we're releasing it from storage. So that adds to the available supply–unfortunately, not at a time when we have our biggest pumping load, but it's still available to the project, and any surplus power the project has is marketed by the Western Area Power Administration [WAPA], and that contributes revenues to repayment of the cost of the project.

To read the full interview of John B. Budd click here, and if you have any questions contact Chantel Bouchard, Regional Office Library Coordinator.

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Who's New

Brian Hobbs

Brian Hobbs is the new Fish Biologist in the Middle Rio Grande Project division of the Albuquerque Area Office. Brian, and his wife Christine, a neurogeneticist, moved to Albuquerque from Clinton, New York. They'd spent the last 18 months there running Christine's late father's cabinet manufacturing business after he passed away. When Christine's mother got ready to take over the business, Brian decided to go back into fish biology.

Brian is originally from Santa Barbara, California. He has previous experience working in Las Vegas, Nevada, as a fish, amphibian, and reptile biologist for the Nevada Department of Wildlife, as well as working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Southern California for the non-regulatory, Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. There he wrote BAs, worked with endangered species and landowners, and spearheaded small projects for species like the California red-legged frog, the coastal cutthroat trout, and the steelhead trout.

When Brian was offered the job here, he was excited. The work seemed interesting and he had heard good things about Albuquerque.

Brian's hobbies include fishing, golf, hiking, and backpacking. He and Christine have been married for seven years and they have two cats, Mike, 7, and Carol, 10. To my disappointment, the cats aren't named after the Brady Bunch.

Reece James

Reece James is the new Secretary for the Western Colorado Area Office in Grand Junction, Colo. Before coming to Reclamation, Reece worked for the Environmental Protection Agency in Ada, Okla. for five years; for the Corps of Engineers in Kenai, Alaska for seven years; and for the Corps of Engineers in Grand Junction, Colo. for four years.

Reece is married to Terry James and they have four kids and five grandkids. They have one

middle school aged child, Scout, who is still at home. In her spare time Reece enjoys attending her son's numerous sporting activities, watching the Oklahoma City Thunder basketball team, and spending time with her cat named "Thabo" and an Australian Shepherd named "Smokey".

Chico Quintana

Chico Quintana is a Civil Engineer serving the role of Reach Coordinator primarily on the NGWSP. His days are spent from working on Construction Plans of his assigned reach to coordinating/gathering information for design work.

Chico has a Bachelor's in General Civil Engineering from New Mexico State University. Prior to joining us at Reclamation, Chico was in the U.S. Army doing 4 years of active duty, 6 years in Residential/Commercial Design, and then 6 years in Municipal Government as a Project Engineer. Chico stated that his greatest accomplishment of the past year was, "Having the courage to leave the municipal government job and pursuing a career with the Bureau of Reclamation."

Chico has 2 boys, Chico Jr. or CJ, who is 10, and Lucas, who is 6. He has 2 dogs and 1 cat; a black lab named Thor, a "res" mutt named Scroungie, and a cat named Catness. Chico likes to spend his free time with his family and doing family activities/outings, coaching his kids' sports teams, going to the Crossfit Gym, and being involved at Church. He is involved with ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers), NMSPE (New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers), K of C (Knights of Columbus), and Coaching Kids Sports Teams. An interesting fact about Chico is that he loves to play racquetball and is regularly attending the local Crossfit Gym, which allows him to do many Olympic lifting movements that he has found to be challenging and enjoying.

Susan Cutchen

Susan Cutchen is an Administrative Clerk who originally started her career in 1990 in Administrative Duties with BOR after moving to Page, AZ.

After her Administrative Duties, Susan managed her own Day Care, which allowed her to stay home with her children until they turned school age. During that time, she took a position as a High School Counselor for Page, AZ. After that, she enjoyed learning how to properly process Police evidence as an Evidence Technician for Page PD. Susan later accepted a position as a BSCI Security Guard at GCFD.

Susan has a large family, and likes to spend her spare time hiking the trails around Lake Powell, or traveling with her husband on their motorcycles across the local mountains. She has an array of interests that include sports, livestock, domesticating her furry family and doing home renovations. Susan loves books, movies, music genres/performers, travel destinations, etc., and her favorite movie is *It's a Wonderful Life*. An interesting fact about Susan is that she was on a Weebles Wobbles Commercial when she was 3 while living with her family in Germany.

Gary Henrie

Gary Henrie is part of the Dam Safety and Security group in the Provo Area Office.

Gary grew up in Utah Valley, studied Civil Engineering at BYU and soon got married, then moved to Portland, OR, where he worked for the Corps of Engineers for 5 years and had a son. Gary and his family moved back to Utah to be near family and is now part of Reclamation. Gary loved his time with the Federal Government and joined the Bureau and Gary's dad loved his time at the Bureau. Gary's father worked for the Provo Area Office most of his engineering career and he always seemed to have a good work/life balance.

Gary said that his greatest accomplishment of the past year was, "My wife and I survived the move from Portland, OR, to Orem, UT, despite our son's efforts to drive us crazy." He loves to learn and likes the work/life balance.

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In Transition

Melvin J. Hoff

Melvin J. "Mel" Hoff, 79 passed away on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014, at Cabinet Peaks Medical Center in Libby.

He was born on July 7, 1935, at Temvik, N.D., to Adam and Freda Hoff. The family moved to Tappen, N.D., where Mel grew up. He graduated from Tappen High School in 1954.

In July of 1957, he entered the U.S. Army and was stationed at Fort Sill, Okla., and Seoul, South Korea, until being honorably discharged in July of 1959. He was employed by the North Dakota Highway Department for the next two years and then was employed with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 1961.

He married the love of his life, Barbara Hack, on April 14, 1962. Mel transferred to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers shortly after their marriage. They lived in Minot and Grand Forks, N.D., where Mel worked on the missile sites. He worked at various locations in the Denver, Colo., area, including the NORAD Tunnel in Colorado Springs. In 1968, he transferred to Libby where he worked at Libby Dam until his retirement in December of 1994.

Mel played on the Tappen High School basketball team during his high school years. In the early 70s he was the pitcher for slow-pitch softball on various Libby teams, and he also enjoyed league bowling. He was an avid hunter most of his adult life. He was a member of Christ Lutheran Church.

Survivors include his wife Barbara Hoff of Libby; sons Brian Hoff and wife Marty of Cripple Creek, Colo., and Jeff Hoff and wife Raina of Libby; brother Arnold and wife Janice of Fargo, N.D.; sisters Emma Miller and husband Gary of Burley, Idaho, Phyllis Kramlich of Medina, N.D.,

and Ruby Wall of Bismarck, N.D.; and much-loved grandchildren Ethan, Ashlyn, Kayla and Halle, all of Libby.

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John William 'Bill' Eckerdt

Mr. Eckerdt was born June 7, 1926, in Powell, Wyo., the son of John and Elizabeth Eckerdt. He graduated from Manderson High School in 1944 and joined the United States Army on Feb. 21, 1945. He attended basic training at Camp Hood, Texas, following with service at Fort Lewis, Wash. He served in the Counter Intelligence Corps at Richland, Wash., and was discharged as a Sergeant October 13, 1946. He married Ethel Josephine Johnston in Manderson on Sept. 5, 1948.

After his military service, Mr. Eckerdt went on to attend the University of Wyoming and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in agronomy in 1950. After graduation, he worked for the Bureau of Reclamation in Huron, S.D., until June 1952. He then accepted a position with the Soil Conservation Service in Hot Springs, S.D., until August 1956, when he accepted a position as a County Extension Agent with the University of Wyoming. Mr. Eckerdt served as the Big Horn County Extension Agent for 29 years, retiring in 1985.

Mr. Eckerdt was well known throughout the Big Horn Basin for his contributions to farmers and ranchers and his leadership in the 4-H Program. He was a member of the Basin Volunteer Fire Department and Lions Club for over 30 years. He served terms as President of the Basin Lions Club and was also a Deputy District Governor. Mr. Eckerdt also served on the Farm Bureau, was a member of the American Legion and served as chairman of the Ag Committee with the Basin Chamber of Commerce. His hobbies included gardening, woodworking, fishing, hunting, tennis and golf in his later years.

Bill and Ethel filled their lives with many activities including camping, fishing, boating, sports, 4-H, school sports and other extracurricular activities. Following Ethel's passing in 1989, Bill met and married Darlene Hansen of Greybull on June 11, 1994. They enjoyed traveling to see children and grandchildren, and spending time in warmer areas during the winter.

Mr. Eckerdt is survived by five daughters, Jan Campbell (Mark) of Casper, Jill Eckerdt of Seattle, Wash., Nancy Jo Wesnitzer (John) of Sedona, Ariz., Joyce Shorthill of Fort Collins, Colo., and Jean Spiegelberg (Anthony) of Sheridan, and one son, Brad Eckerdt of Cedarburg, Wis.; two sisters, Marion Black of Worland and Jeannie Wright of Dallas, Texas; 11 grandchildren, Daniel Agin, Jeff and Julie Baroody, Austin and Lucas Wesnitzer, Caroline Martin, Madison and Samantha Shorthill, Taylor and Emily Spiegelberg, Lauren, Jack, and Henry Eckerdt, and three great-grandchildren, Phineaus Baroody, and Milo and Calder Belanger.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, Bob, one sister, Irene, his wives, Ethel and Darlene, and a daughter, Joan, who died in 1957.

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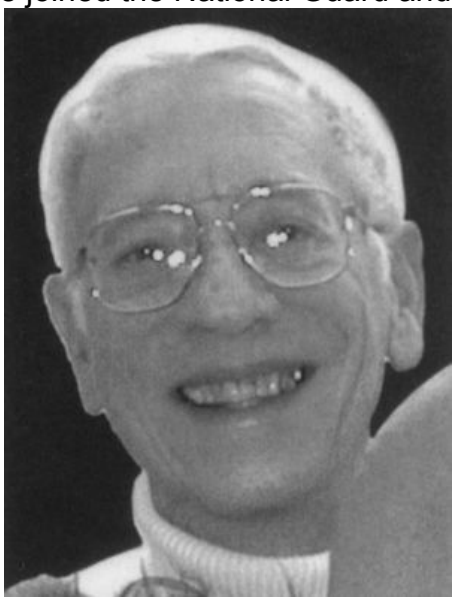
Rev. James Buckingham Brooks

James Buckingham Brooks was born on October 30, 1938 in Boise, Idaho to Orville Perry Brooks and Elizabeth Frances (Buckingham) Brooks. He passed away on September 23, 2014 at home surrounded by family and friends. James “Jim” was the first born of 5 children. He attended school through junior high in McCall, Idaho when his family moved to Baker, OR., where he graduated high school from Saint Francis Academy. He joined the National Guard and Army Reserve. He attended the C of I where he met Susan Jane Emery and married. James got a job working for the Forest Service. He moved his family to Utah, being transferred to the Region 4 office as Photogrammetrist. He later transferred to the Payette National Forest to continue his job an to be close to the country he enjoyed. When he quit there, he got a job working for Haldeman & Williamson Electric. Jim was a volunteer ambulance driver, Auxiliary Policeman, was with Mountain Search & Rescue, and National Ski Patrol.



Jim patrolled Brundage and the Little Ski Gill in McCall, ID. He moved again with his family to Boise, ID where he worked for the Bureau of Reclamation until he retired. He volunteered over 11,000 hours for St. Luke’s working in intensive care. He was also the mascot the “Moose” for St. Luke’s. Jim was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons March 28, 1987 where he served at St. Michael’s Cathedral and retired. He was adopted by two Native American Tribes. Jim has much love for his Native American brothers.

Survivors include his 3 children, John Christopher Brooks, Laurie Ann Brooks, and Mary Kathryn (Katie) Hughes. His siblings Gerald O. Brooks, John M. Brooks, Mary K. Ballard, and Cynthia I. Webster, 3 grandchildren, 12 nieces and nephews, and several great nieces and nephews with whom he played an important part of their lives.

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What Is the Media Saying About Reclamation This Week?

50th Anniversary Celebration: Glen Canyon Dam (video)

50th party out powers Dam monsoons

Monsoon Rains Help Fill Dry Reservoirs in New Mexico (video)

Lake Powell is getting outmusseled by quaggas

Leaders detail Utah's water challenges

Focus shifts to damage assessment from flooding

Engineers inspect 'sloughing' of Steinaker Dam face

Group wants all to pay 'true' price for water, property taxes phased out

Eddy County officials say damage is significant from record rainfall, flooding

http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press_releases/2014/rio-grande-cutthroat-trout-90-30-2014.html

Critic slams Bear River dam 'boondoggle'

Pecos River floods fed by Black Canyon Draw

West Jordan Water Line Breaks (video)

Why not drink our good, local water?

Elephant Butte, Caballo lakes boosted by monsoon rains

New Mexico drought conditions best since late 2010

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Reclamation Trivia

Here's this week's set of questions:

1. Brent said that Glen Canyon Dam is an _____ _____that has created memories that are woven into the fabric of the west and the nation.

2. Situated on the Colorado River in northern Arizona, Glen Canyon Dam is the second highest concrete-arch dam in the United States, _____feet above bedrock, second only to Hoover Dam, which stands at _____feet.

3. The effort to educate the public about the issues related to disability and employment began in _____, when Congress enacted Public Law 176, declaring the first week of _____ each year as National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week.

Last week, We asked,

1. About 40 children gathered there September 13 for the Annual C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation event. Reclamation staff joined with New Mexico State Parks and volunteers to provide the children with a morning of fishing and activities followed by a lunch.

2. The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15.

3. Chris came to UC Region in 2001 as a hydraulic engineer for the Water Resources Group and then moved to the Program Management Group as a Projects Specialist before serving as the UC Regional Liaison in Washington, DC, for 2 years.

Last winner was – N/A

Please use this link to send your answers. To be fair we will draw names from the winners and one person will receive a prize. We will reach into the prize bin for something suitable for the winner...as long as supplies last.

Return to UC Today